



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Kiyoshi YOSHIZUMI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/050,866

GAU: 1745

FILED: January 18, 2002

EXAMINER:

FOR: ONBOARD FUEL CELL SYSTEM AND METHOD OF DISCHARGING HYDROGEN-OFF GAS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE/RELATED CASE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

**REFERENCES**

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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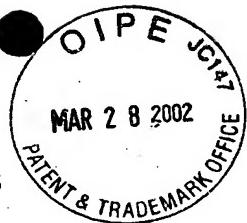
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DOCKET NO: 218209US3

Sheet 1 of 1

SERIAL NO: 09/050,866

Group Art Unit: 1745

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

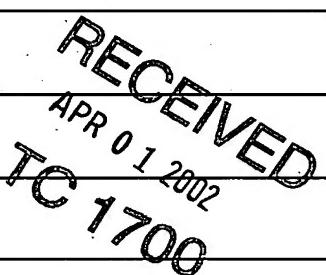
**Reference AO (JP 11-185783) on Form 1449:**

This reference discloses a surplus of hydrogen gas remaining in the anode of a fuel cell flows through an exhaust gas passage and is introduced into an air-introducing passage via an exhaust valve. In the air-introducing passage, the hydrogen gas is mixed with air gas and is supplied to the cathode while being maintained in a widely dispersed state. Air gas discharged from the cathode is introduced into the air-introducing passage via a circulation passage.

**Reference AP (JP 11-233129) on Form 1449:**

This reference discloses a solid oxide fuel cell. Air gas discharged from the cathode outlet of a fuel cell and fuel gas discharged from the anode outlet of the fuel cell are supplied to a combustor, undergo heat exchange in a heat exchanger for preheating air, and are discharged as exhaust gas

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Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 218209US3	SERIAL NO. 10/050,866
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Kiyoshi YOSHIZUMI, et al.	
MAR 28 2002				FILING DATE January 18, 2002	GROUP 1745
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS SUB CLASS FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA				
	AB				
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				
	AI				
	AJ				
	AK				
	AL				
	AM				
	AN				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES      NO
	AO	11-185783	07/09/99	JAPAN (with English Abstract)	
	AP	11-233129	08/27/99	JAPAN (with English Abstract)	X
	AQ				
	AR				
	AS				
	AT				
	AU				
	AV				
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					
	AW				
	AX				
	AY				
	AZ				
Examiner				Date Considered	

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.